Commissioner of Patents
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1-27 (Cancelled).

Claim 28 (currently amended): A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of a viral infection in a subject, comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of at least one pharmacologically acceptable oligonucleotide formulation comprising at least one antiviral oligonucleotide having an antiviral activity, said viral infection is caused by a virus of the family selected from the group consisting of herpesviridae, poxviridae, hepadnaviridae, arenaviridae, bunyaviridae, coronaviridae, filoviridae, flaviridae, orthomyxoviridae, paramyxoviridae, rhabdoviridae and togaviridae, andwherein said antiviral oligonucleotide comprises at least one phosphorothioate linkage, wherein said antiviral activity of said oligonucleotide occurs principally by a sequence independent mode of action.

Claim 29 (original): The method of claim 28, wherein said subject is a human.

Claim 30-40 (Cancelled).

Claim 41 (Previously presented): A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of a viral infection in a subject, comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of at least one pharmacologically acceptable oligonucleotide formulation comprising at least one randomer oligonucleotide having an antiviral activity, wherein said randomer oligonucleotide comprises at least one phosphorothioate linkage, wherein the antiviral activity of said randomer oligonucleotide occurs principally by a sequence independent mode of action.

Claim 42 (Previously presented): A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of a viral infection in a subject, comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of at least one pharmacologically acceptable oligonucleotide

formulation comprising at least one antiviral oligonucleotide having an antiviral activity, wherein said oligonucleotide is at least 29 nucleotides in length, comprises at least one phosphorothioate linkage, and the sequence of said oligonucleotide is not complementary to any portion of the genomic sequence of said target virus.

Claim 43 (Previously presented): A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of a viral infection in a subject, comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of at least one pharmacologically acceptable oligonucleotide formulation comprising at least one antiviral oligonucleotide targeting a virus and having an antiviral activity, wherein said antiviral oligonucleotide is at least 6 nucleotides in length, comprises at least one phosphorothioate linkage and the sequence of said oligonucleotide is free of complementarity to an mRNA of said target virus and is free of polyA, polyG, Gquartet or a TG-rich sequence, and wherein the antiviral activity of said oligonucleotide occurs principally by a sequence independent mode of action.